GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2475
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2016
Special Package for Rubber Market
Marutharajaa Shri R.P.;Mullappally Shri Ramachandran

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala has sought any special package from the Government for revival of rubber market;
(b) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government on this request; and
(c) whether the Government has amended the guidelines on import of rubber and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b): State Government of Kerala has requested the Central Government to earmark Rs 500 crores from the Price Stabilization Fund maintained by the Department of Commerce for Plantation Crops with a view to provide additional price support of at least Rs.50/Kg to Natural Rubber framers. Natural Rubber being a commercial crop is not considered for minimum price support. Moreover, price support of Rs 50/Kg involves cash subvention of large amounts at the current level of production for which adequate financial resources are currently not available.

(c): The Government has increased the duty on import of dry rubber from "20% or Rs 30 per kg whichever is lower" to "25% or Rs. 30 per kg. whichever is lower" w.e.f 30.4.2015 in order to increase the cost of imported rubber and create demand for locally produced rubber. The Government has also reduced the period of utilization of imported dry rubber under advance licensing scheme from 18 months to 6 months. Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has imposed port restriction on the import of natural rubber by restricting the port of entry to Chennai and NhavaSheva (Jawaharlal Nehru Port) since 20th January, 2016.

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